

UCF Tool Kit

The latest facts and figures about
topics important to the UCF community



FALL 2014



UCF Downtown

- UCF and Valencia College are pursuing a campus in downtown Orlando to provide an enhanced learning environment and new opportunities for students during college and upon graduation, while also stimulating the local economy.
- Plans are contingent upon funding. Buildings would be located in the Creative Village, near UCF's Center for Emerging Media. UCF committees are studying the project's feasibility and which programs would benefit from being downtown.
- UCF's plans include designing a program to allow young adults with disabilities the opportunity to attend classes and fully participate in college life, with the goal to serve as a national model for higher education.
- UCF and Valencia College will work closely with the Parramore community and a new K-8 school. The school is one of many collaborations expected to enhance student learning.
- Many great metropolitan downtowns have a strong higher education presence. Like Arizona State and Duke, UCF plans to transform downtown and connect students with businesses, governments and nonprofits in the downtown area.

CONTACT:

Academic Affairs

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Growth With Quality and Diversity

- Our fall 2014 freshman class set UCF records with an average SAT score of 1257 and an average high-school GPA of 3.91.
- UCF set new records for diversity in the fall: 41 percent of students are minorities, and 22 percent are Hispanic.
- UCF is the nation's second-largest university with 60,810 students, including 52,532 undergraduates, 7,858 graduate students and 420 M.D. students.
- UCF ranks second among Florida's state universities with 275 National Merit Scholars enrolled.
- UCF's six-year graduation rate is 69.7 percent, third best among Florida's state universities.

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Preparing Students for the Workforce

- More than 20,000 students annually gain practical experience through co-ops, internships and service-learning projects.
- UCF awarded nearly 2,000 baccalaureate degrees in STEM fields in 2013-14, the second-largest number in the State University System. The top three STEM degrees awarded were Biology, Mechanical Engineering, and Molecular Biology and Microbiology.
- Career Services helped about 30,000 students search and compete for jobs in 2013-14. One-on-one sessions and workshops cover topics such as resumes, interviewing and negotiating, and several hundred employers visited campus to recruit students.
- The Blackstone LaunchPad helps students develop entrepreneurial ideas into businesses through free one-on-one coaching, workshops and other resources. UCF's LaunchPad has provided advice to more than 900 student ventures since opening in fall 2013.
- The UCF-Lockheed Martin Work Experience Program trains more than 550 students a year, most from engineering and business. 61 percent of the participants who graduated in 2013 received full-time job offers from Lockheed Martin.

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An Affordable, Best-Value Education

- In-state undergraduate students taking 30 credit hours per year pay \$6,368 in tuition and fees, among the lowest costs in the nation.
- 73 percent of undergraduates received grant or scholarship aid in 2013-14. The average amount was \$4,450.
- 48 percent of UCF students graduate without any educational debt. Nationally, only 33 percent of students graduate debt-free.
- *Kiplinger* and The Princeton Review consistently rank a UCF education among the nation's best values.
- Nearly 36 percent of all credit hours are taken online. UCF's robust online learning program provides students with flexibility and convenience, and it has helped save tens of millions of dollars in facilities costs.

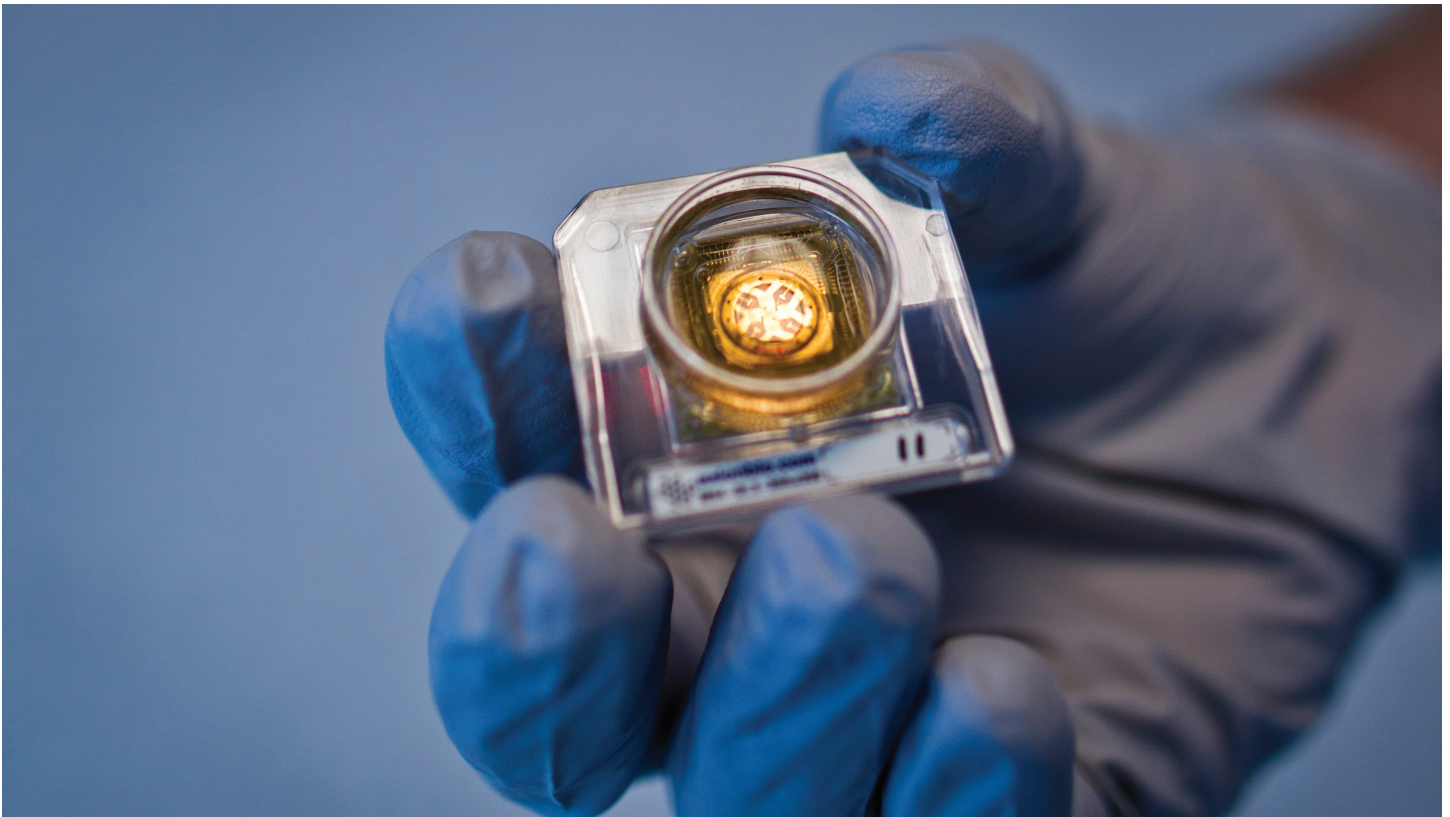
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A Leader in Economic Impact

- Researchers earned a UCF-record \$145.6 million in external funding in 2014. The top three sources of funding were the Department of Defense, National Science Foundation and NASA.
- The College of Medicine and Medical City partners are projected to create 30,000 jobs and more than \$7.6 billion in annual economic impact by the end of 2017.
- The Florida Advanced Manufacturing Research Center, focused on smart sensors, is set to open in 2016 in Osceola County. The center aims to energize Florida's innovation economy with thousands of new jobs in the coming years.
- The Business Incubation Program has helped clients and graduates sustain nearly 3,700 local jobs since 1999. GrowFL, the Venture Accelerator and the Small Business Development Center also are focused on helping small businesses.
- UCF employs about 11,000 faculty and staff members. The university impacts more than 112,000 additional jobs and adds \$7.73 billion of value to the economy, according to a 2009-10 study by the Florida Board of Governors.

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Student-Athletes Lead On and Off the Field

- UCF's student-athlete graduation rate is the nation's best among public universities and tied for No. 5 overall out of 347 Division I colleges, trailing only Duke, Notre Dame, Stanford and Northwestern.
- The football team's graduation rate ranks No. 3 among public universities and No. 10 overall out of 128 Football Bowl Subdivision schools.
- Teams have won four American Athletic Conference titles (women's soccer, softball and football in 2013 and women's soccer in 2014). Football finished No. 10 in the nation after winning the 2014 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl.
- Student-athletes contributed 2,161 hours of volunteer service in Central Florida in 2013-14. In addition, 17 student-athletes rebuilt a library and led sports clinics for at-risk youths during a Knights Without Borders trip to St. Vincent.
- The new Wayne Densch Center for Student-Athlete Leadership, set to open in 2015, will be the headquarters for student-athletes' personal, professional and academic development as leaders.

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Community Service

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Commitment to Sustainability

- UCF reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent between 2011 and 2014, making significant progress toward the university's goal of becoming climate neutral by 2050.
- UCF decreased its total electrical energy use by 8 percent in 2013-14. A combined heat and power plant fueled by natural gas is on track to save the university \$1.8 million annually in utility costs.
- Potable water consumption has decreased 21 percent since 2008, largely because of sustainable landscaping, conservation campaigns and using reclaimed water.
- UCF has 14 LEED-certified buildings recognized for their green design and construction. Construction standards in those buildings have led to 30 percent less energy use and 40 percent less water use than comparable buildings.
- The thermal energy storage tank has saved more than \$2.2 million since 2010 by shifting peak electrical demand to off-peak times.

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Focus on Faculty

- UCF is hiring 100 faculty members – 90 percent tenure track – for new positions, as well as 100 more to replace departed or retiring faculty members. The new positions are in every college, with emphases in STEM and areas with high student demand.
- The new positions are a result of UCF's first significant increase in state funding in seven years. The increase, which followed several years of budget cuts, also enabled UCF to provide faculty members with 5 percent raises in 2014.
- We hope this is the first of several years in which resources will allow UCF to create many new faculty positions, which over time would significantly reduce the university's faculty-student ratio.
- UCF is advertising the faculty positions nationally and in publications designed to attract a diverse pool of applicants.
- The Karen L. Smith Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning provided services to more than 800 faculty members and teaching assistants in 2013-14. Workshop topics included effective course design and innovative uses of technology to enhance learning.

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Innovative Partnerships

- UCF, Ohio State, Arizona State and Texas are among the 11 University Innovation Alliance founding institutions. Schools will share innovations to help low-income and first-generation students earn degrees.
- UCF, FIU and USF formed the Florida Consortium of Metropolitan Research Universities to work together to improve graduation rates and increase the number of graduates employed in our state.
- Through DirectConnect to UCF, the university guarantees admission to students who graduate from Eastern Florida State College, Lake-Sumter State College, Seminole State College and Valencia College.
- UCF has awarded 28,448 degrees to DirectConnect to UCF students since 2007.
- UCF launched the John N. Gardner Institute's Foundations of Excellence Transfer Initiative to improve how we serve transfer students inside and beyond the classroom.

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DirectConnect to UCF

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Notable UCF Rankings

UNIVERSITY:

- *U.S. News & World Report* ranks UCF as the nation's No. 3 up-and-coming university, a category of institutions that have made the most promising and innovative changes.
- *Kiplinger* ranks UCF as the 42nd-best value in the nation, while The Princeton Review lists UCF among the top 75 best values at U.S. public universities.
- *U.S. News & World Report* ranks UCF among the nation's best colleges for veterans, and G.I. Jobs lists UCF as a military-friendly school.
- The Princeton Review ranks UCF among the nation's top "green colleges," schools committed to sustainability in academics, facilities, activities and career preparation.

DIVERSITY:

- *Hispanic Outlook* ranks UCF No. 11 among colleges and universities nationwide for most bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanic students, including No. 2 for psychology and No. 7 for education and engineering.
- *Hispanic Business Magazine* ranks UCF's graduate engineering and computer science programs No. 7 in the nation for Hispanic students (10 consecutive years in the top 10).

ATHLETICS:

- UCF's student-athlete graduation rate is the nation's best among public universities and tied for No. 5 overall out of 347 Division I colleges, trailing only Duke, Notre Dame, Stanford and Northwestern.
- The football team's graduation rate ranks No. 3 among public universities and No. 10 overall out of 128 Football Bowl Subdivision schools.

PROGRAMS:

- Twenty-three UCF graduate programs are ranked among the top 100 in their fields, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. Counselor Education ranked No. 7, Special Education No. 12, Optics No. 14 and Nonprofit Management No. 25.
- The Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy, UCF's graduate program for video game design, ranks second in North America, according to The Princeton Review.



Points of Pride

STUDENTS:

- The Cyber Defense Team was named the best in the nation at a 2014 competition organized by Raytheon and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The team visited the White House in August.
- A team of students and alumni led by a Ph.D. engineering student used a 3-D printer and off-the-shelf parts to build a \$350 prosthetic arm for a 6-year-old boy born without one. The team donated the arm and posted the design online for others to use.

FACULTY AND STAFF:

- Optics researcher S.T. Wu, whose work has advanced liquid-crystal displays, was inducted in the inaugural class of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame, along with Thomas Edison, air conditioning pioneer John Gorrie and Gatorade inventor Robert Cade.
- Richard Beary became the first university police chief elected president of the 22,000-plus-member International Association of Chiefs of Police.

ALUMNI:

- Prominent alumni include George Kalogridis, president of Walt Disney World Resort; Alan Eustace, senior vice president of Google; and actress Cheryl Hines.
- NASA deputy associate administrator Lesa Roe, who holds a master's degree in electrical engineering, won UCF's 2014 Distinguished Alumna Award. Roe, who started at NASA in 1987, is responsible for evaluating NASA's entire organizational structure.

PROGRAMS:

- UCF's National Center for Forensic Science is one of the nation's top resources for arson investigators, and researchers there also are helping more than 20 European Union countries establish an international database of ignitable liquids.
- DeVos Sport Business Management Program students, staff, alumni and friends have contributed more than 43,000 volunteer hours to help rebuild more than 100 homes in New Orleans since 2006. The master's program focuses on ethics, diversity, leadership and community service.

